

In the claims:

Please amend claim 18 as follows:

18. (Amended) An isocyanate composition comprising:
- a masked isocyanate compound at least partially aliphatic, exhibiting an aliphatic backbone which comprises, in said backbone, at least one di- or polymethylene linkage, and no masked isocyanate functional groups carried by an endocyclic cycloaliphatic carbon, and
- a nonmasked cycloaliphatic isocyanate compound.

Please cancel claims 19-21.

Please amend claim 22 as follows:

22. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 18, wherein said masked isocyanate compound results from a polymethylene diisocyanate monomer, one (co)oligomer of said monomer or one (co)oligocondensate of said monomer.

Please amend claim 23 as follows:

23. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 18, wherein said polymethylene diisocyanate monomer is tetra-, penta- or hexamethylene diisocyanate, substituted at the most once.

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

24. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein said (co)oligomer or (co)oligocondensate comprises at least one imidazolidinedione, isocyanuric, biuret, allophanate or polyol carbamate functional group.

Please cancel claim 28.

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AMENDMENT

Please amend claim 32 as follows:

32. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 18, wherein the unmasked isocyanate compound and the masked isocyanate compound present a ratio in equivalents: unmasked isocyanate compound/ masked isocyanate of at most equal to 1.

Please amend claim 33 as follows

33. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the ratio is at most equal to 0.7.

Please amend claim 34 as follows

34. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a composition as defined in claim 18, wherein the unmasked isocyanate is mixed in the masked isocyanate which is in a molten state.

Please amend claim 36 as follows:

36. (Amended) A powder painting composition, comprising a composition as defined in claim 18.

Please amend claim 37 as follows:

37. (Amended) A powder coating composition, comprising a composition as defined in claim 18.

Please cancel claims 38 and 39.

Marked-up amended specification and claims according to 37 C.F.R. 1.121 are submitted in an attached document. Added matter is shown by underline and deleted matter is shown by strikethrough.